



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Tabin et al.

Serial No: 09/711,724

Filed: November 13, 2000

For: Screening Assays for Hedgehog
Agonists and Antagonists

Attorney Docket No. HMSU-P14-006

Art Unit: 1646

Examiner: J. Andres

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 on the date indicated below:

March 6, 2003
Date of Signature
and of Mail Deposit


Brent LaBarge

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

RECEIVED

MAR 14 2003

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Preliminary Amendment

Sir:

Please enter the following amendments:

In the claims:

For the convenience of the Examiner, all claims being examined, whether or not amended, are presented below.

Please cancel, without prejudice, claim 77.

1. **(Reiterated)** An assay for identifying compounds that mimic the bioactivity of a *hedgehog* protein, comprising:
 - (a) forming a reaction mixture including:
 - (i) a naturally occurring *patched* receptor; and